



The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

**29 & 30 March 2025: Fourth Sunday in Lent Year C
Project Compassion Appeal**



First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12 A reading from the book of Joshua

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

Responsorial Psalm: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ! I will rise and go to my Father and tell him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3. 11-32 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.'"

INTERCESSIONS

Brothers and sisters, through Christ our Redeemer we make our prayers before God.

That the Church will be challenged and strengthened by the prophetic voices that call from within.

That peoples who have been exiled from their homeland will be able to return in safety and peace.

That those experiencing depression and sadness will find hope and healing in the light of Christ.

We pray for all people who make things. We thank God for their skill. May our support of Project Compassion help people around the world find the opportunity to use their talents to support their families and communities.

We pray for those who are ill.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Noelle O'Brien, Adrian Malouf, Jessie Jackman and Frank Rowland; And those we remember especially: Alec Taylor, John Hardwick, Palma Monardo, Paul Cassar, Jack Moloney, Gaetano Giampiccolo, Micheline Matrenza and Joseph Said.

Loving God hear our prayers and deepen our faith in your Son, the light of all the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

WHICH PRIEST WHERE This weekend Fr John will preside at all Masses across our two Mass centres except for the 10:00am Sunday Mass at OLN when Fr Bernie will preside. Next weekend Fr John will preside at all Masses at St Therese's while Fr Bernie will preside at OLN.



Photo credit:
Caritas
Australia

PROJECT COMPASSION Irene lives in a remote village in the Kongolo Region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). Life hasn't been easy for Irene with her father dying in war and her husband leaving her to raise her two children alone. Things began to change when Irene joined the Youth Capacity Strengthening Program (YCSP), run by Caritas Kongolo. Irene learned sewing skills and was provided with a sewing machine and fabric. Irene also gained farming skills. Now, she grows enough food to feed her family and even shares her sewing knowledge by mentoring other women in her community. "Before, women depended on men's income, but now, with our sewing skills, we can take care of ourselves." Your support of Project Compassion helps women like Irene to create brighter futures for themselves and their families through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above. **Or online at:** caritas.org.au/project-compassion **Or by calling:** 1800 024 413



PROJECT COMPASSION

MEN'S CHOIR We welcome the Men's Choir to St Therese's church this Sunday where they will sing at 9:00am Mass.

KIDS AT MASS We look forward to the return of Kids at Mass next Saturday 5 April at 6:00pm Mass at St Therese's.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE IN HOLY WEEK Please note that due to school holidays and staff leave the parish office will be operating remotely on Wednesday and Thursday of Holy Week. Staff will still be contactable via the office phone and email but the parish office will be closed on Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 April. The Easter bulletin will go to print on Friday 11 April (the week prior to Holy Week) and no changes will be possible after that date.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER MASS TIMES Are on the parish website and will appear in full in the bulletin next weekend.

PARISH STRATEGIC PLANNING 'LOOKING AHEAD TOGETHER' The parish strategic planning initiative 'Looking Ahead Together' is now underway. Details on the parish website: <https://www.essendoncatholic.org.au/looking-ahead-together/> Focus groups are scheduled each Wednesdays in the parish office for parishioners who would like to contribute. To register use this link: <https://forms.gle/2ZUjiHMxTcWa7XRe8> or use the QR code on the next page ad.

ALPHA IS COMING Our Alpha team are planning to begin a new program after Easter. If you are interested, please register your details using this link: <https://forms.gle/Hu3vaxLVXdHbTsi46>. You can also ring the parish office and we will add your name and details to the list.

VALE JESSIE JACKMAN We were saddened to learn of the death of long-time, faithful OLN parishioner Jessie Jackman who passed away this week at the age of 97. Jessie's funeral will be held at OLN next Friday 4 April at 11:00am.

PARISH GIVING

BANK ACCOUNT CHANGE As of 1 February all direct debit and credit card financial support has been directed to the bank accounts for The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese. To make manual payments please use the following details for or use the new online giving portal:

CHURCH ACCOUNT Name: The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese Essendon. BSB: 083-347
Account Number: 67640 1701

PRESBYTERY ACCOUNT Name: The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese Essendon BSB: 083-347
Account Number: 67616 4988



ONLINE GIVING PORTAL Parishioners can now make secure financial contributions to support the parish and/or clergy via this website: <https://www.melbocatholic.org/s/donate?id=0012w0000LOj4wAAD> or by using the QR code above. You can choose to make a one-off donation or set up recurring monthly payments.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS Are made from wheat starch and water with a gluten content of 6.2 parts per million.

SAFEGUARDING

SAFEGUARDING REQUIREMENTS Volunteers who haven't completed the Safeguarding obligations will now need to pause their involvement until they have completed all three requirements:

Requirement #1: All volunteers over the age of 18 are required to maintain a current Working with Children (WWC) check throughout their involvement with the parish, irrespective of the ministry in which they serve. To apply for a WWC check please visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

Requirement #2: Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct: You can sign the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct through the online Safeguarding Essentials Training platform

Requirement #3: Training <https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fs%2F>

MINISTRY ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 5 & 6 APRIL (WEEK 1)

MASS	READERS	EUCARIST
OLN 5:00pm	Jon Fleming	Tatiana Polizzi
OLN 10:00am	Paula O'Byrne	Andrew Scaramozzino
St Therese's 6.00pm	Eve Korytkowski	Gina Bell & Maggie Catterall
St Therese's 9.00am	Mary Dowling & Margaret Kerr	Carmen Merrigan & Rosina Tempini
St Therese's 10.30am	Silvia Campo & George Jungwirt	Miriam Gandolfo & Maria Giampiccolo
Adults: https://sundayreadingsathomeyearc.weebly.com/h1sks0t1.html Children: https://www.childrensliturgyoftthewordc.com/yhc3rwjcm2.html		



The Parish of Our Lady & St Therese

GOOD FRIDAY

The Way of the Cross

We invite you to join us in a modern re-enactment of Jesus' walk to Calvary

Friday 18 April
Starting at 10:00am
St Therese's Catholic Church
48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon

The Way of the Cross will be acted out on the streets of Essendon and will conclude with the crucifixion scene in the church grounds

KAM IS BACK NEXT WEEKEND
SATURDAY 5 APRIL
AT ST THERESE'S 6:00PM MASS



Primary school-aged children can listen to Jesus' message in a child friendly and engaging way.

Children who are not yet at school should be accompanied by parent/s

Tiny Ts Playgroup

A great place to make new friends!

For children from infancy through to primary school age

Indoor and outdoor covered play areas - runs in all weather conditions

Grandparents welcome!



WHEN: Thursday mornings during school terms

TIME: 9.30am - 10:30am

WHERE: St Therese's PACE Function Room
48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon

COST: Free of charge

EMAIL: stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com

Senior Friendship Group Morning Tea

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS OF
OUR PARISH ARE INVITED TO

Morning Tea in
PACE FUNCTION ROOM
at St Therese's

After 10:00am Mass
Thursday 10 April

Please note: Our usual monthly morning tea is a week earlier due to Easter

All welcome

PARISH DIARY

Weekend 29 & 30 March	St Therese's Students present as candidates for Reconciliation	St Ts Masses
Sunday 30 March	Fourth Sunday of Lent Men's Choir singing at St Therese's	9:00am
Monday 31 March	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Carroll family	
Tuesday 1 April	Mass at Ryman Raelene Boyle Village	11:00am
Wednesday 2 April	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store	9:00am 10:45am
Thursday 3 April	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room	9:30am 10:30am
Friday 4 April	Last Day of School Term 1 Requiem Mass for Jessie Jackman at OLN church Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN	11:00am 3:00pm 6:00pm
Saturday 5 April	Men's Choir singing at OLN Kids at Mass at St Therese's	5:00pm 6:00pm
Sunday 6 April	Fifth Sunday of Lent	
Monday 7 March	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Rodriguez family	
Wednesday 9 April	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
Thursday 10 April	Senior Friendship Group morning tea in PACE SVDP Regional Conference meeting in PACE Mass at Arcadia Aged Care Mass at Trevi Court Aged Care	10:30am 7:00pm 11:00am 1:30pm
Friday 11 April	Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN	3:00pm 6:00pm
Saturday 12 April	Easter Working Bees at both churches	9:00am
Sunday 13 April	Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)	
Monday 14 April	Statue of Our Lady moves to the D'Cruz family	
Tuesday 15 April	Communal Reconciliation Service at St Therese's church	7:00pm
Wednesday 16 April	Parish office operating remotely Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store	9:00am 10:45am
Thursday 17 April	Parish office operating remotely Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper at OLN Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Therese's Altar of Repose at St Therese's church	5:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm – 10:30pm
Friday 18 April	Good Friday Holy Land Appeal Morning Prayer of the Church at OLN Stations of the Cross (both churches) Way of the Cross beginning at St Therese's church Veneration of the Cross (both churches)	9:30am 10:00am 10:00am 3:00pm

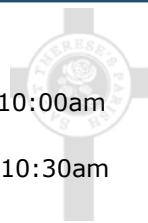
MASSES

ST THERESE'S CHURCH
48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon

Weekday Masses: Tuesday to Friday 10:00am

Weekend Masses: Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 9:00am & 10:30am

Reconciliation: Saturday 5:45pm



OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY CHURCH
31 Fawkner St, Aberfeldie

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:00pm,
Sunday 10:00am

Reconciliation: Saturday 4:45pm



PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST Fr John Hannon

Office phone: 9401 6330 **Office address:** 48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon

Office email: essendon@cam.org.au **Website:** www.essendoncatholic.org.au

Office hours: Monday to Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm

After-Hours phone: 0490 956 610 (answering service)

St Vincent de Paul Helpline: 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10:00am–3:00pm

To subscribe to our newsletter go to the link below or use the QR code:
<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/subscription?id=0012w00000LOj4wAAD&req=subscribe>

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country of the land of our parish and recognize their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and to Elders past, present and emerging.



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults.

HOW TO UPDATE YOUR COMPLIANCE STATUS

This information is provided to assist volunteers to ensure continued compliance. This information assumes you have access to internet and are comfortable with computers. If you require assistance, please call our parish staff on 9401 6330, so we can help.

Requirement #1: Working with Children Check

All volunteers over the age of 18 are required to maintain a current Working with Children (WWC) check throughout their involvement with the parish, irrespective of the ministry in which they serve.

A volunteer check is free but only valid for volunteer work. To apply for a WWC check please visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

It is a requirement that volunteers register Essendon or West Essendon parish as an organisation where they engage in volunteering through the [WWCC Service Vic website](#). The Parish will then receive a letter linking their WWC check to the parish and will be informed if the WWC check status changes.

A teacher who holds a current registration with the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) is exempt from the requirement to undertake a WWC check. VIT, however, requires registered teachers to nominate organisations in which they undertake volunteer work. Website: [Service Victoria Teachers Notifications](#)

Requirement #2: Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct

You can sign the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct through the [online Safeguarding Essentials Training platform](#) (without completing the training). When you log into the online Safeguarding Essentials Training platform, you will see the following statement:

"Our records indicate that you have not acknowledged the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct Declaration in recent times. Please read the document provided below and acknowledge your agreement by clicking the Accept Button."

Volunteers are required to read and acknowledge the Code of Conduct every three years. There is a downloadable pdf version of the code on Archdiocese website here: [Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct](#)

Requirement #3: Safeguarding Essentials Training

Volunteers are required complete the Safeguarding Essentials training module every three years.

Website link: [online Safeguarding Essentials training](#)

The Safeguarding Essentials Training takes approximately 45 minutes and you can stop, leave and go back to it if you need to break it up.

Websites:

Working With Children Check: <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

Code of Conduct: <https://melbournecatholic.org/uploads/documents/Code-of-Conduct.pdf>

Training: <https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fs%2F>

Once you have read and accepted the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct, and completed the Safeguarding Essentials Training, the online training platform will automatically update the parish administration system (PACEM) held by our Essendon and West Essendon parish.

The parish is happy to assist those who have trouble accessing the online training so please reach out!